



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

## Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) in California

On April 15, 2005, California (CA) regained its TB Accredited Free Status. The State was classified as Modified Accredited Advanced for two years after bovine TB was detected in three dairy herds. All three herds were quarantined, cattle destroyed, and the affected premises cleaned, disinfected, and restocked.

CA plans to maintain and demonstrate its freedom from bovine TB through movement controls and surveillance. California leads the nation in slaughterhouse surveillance, with all major adult plants meeting or exceeding target levels. All 680,000 adult cattle slaughtered in CA in 2005 were inspected for TB, and the California Animal Health & Food Safety Laboratory evaluated 1,328 suspicious samples from them; all were negative for TB.

Testing live cattle is also crucial for maintaining free status. In 2005, private veterinarians did over 85,000 caudal fold tuberculin tests in CA. Continued vigilance is necessary to ensure CA remains free of bovine TB.

## National TB Report for 2005

The number of bovine TB infected herds declined; six herds were found in 2004 and four herds were diagnosed in 2005. However, herds were detected in states not known to have infection, including Minnesota and Arizona.

Private practitioners did over one million caudal fold tuberculin tests in 2005. Over 16,000 cattle positive on the initial skin test were negative on further evaluation for bovine TB.

Slaughter surveillance for TB continued to improve in 2005. Forty plants, located in 20 states, kill 94% of the adult cattle; all but two of these plants meet or exceed targeted surveillance levels. A record 9,439 suspicious samples were submitted nationally; 40 were positive for bovine TB.

## TB Positive Granulomas in US in 2005

Of the 40 TB positive lesions from slaughter plants, five were from adult cattle and 35 were from fed/fat cattle.

Investigations of the five adult cases revealed:

- Two traced to infected herds, one in Minnesota and one in Arizona.
- Two traced to herds in Texas and Nebraska, but extensive tracing and testing did not identify an infected herd.
- One case from South Dakota could not be traced to a herd of origin due to lack of identification.

Investigation of 35 fed cases revealed:

- 22 traced to Mexico by official Mexican eartags.
- Five traced to Mexico through epidemiology.
- Five traced to feeder-cattle from Texas, infected in the feedlot from a Mexican steer.
- Three cases are still under investigation.

## TB Infected Herds in the US - Update

**Arizona:** One infected dairy identified through slaughter surveillance has been depopulated.

**Michigan:** No new herds detected in 2005. Two dairy herds detected in 2004 are under a test-and-removal plan. Infected wild deer continue to be found, although the prevalence has decreased.

**Minnesota:** Three infected beef herds were identified in 2005, and two in early 2006. All five herds have been depopulated. An infected wild deer has also been found.

**New Mexico:** No new herds were detected in 2005. One infected herd identified in 2003 was depopulated in 2005; the other is under a test-and-removal plan.

**Texas:** No new herds were found in 2005. The last infected herd was depopulated in September 2004.

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